

WELCOME TO 2^D BATTALION 8TH MARINES “AMERICA’S BATTALION”

Your Marine has been assigned to 2/8 and we would like to welcome you to the family!

Battalion Commanding Officer
Battalion Executive Officer
Battalion SergeantMajor

LtCol Harrill
Maj Stolzenburg
SgtMaj Mathern

Battalion Chaplain

Lt Solomon

Family Readiness Officer
910 451-7836 officer
910 382-0370 cell

We have compiled a list of Frequently Asked Questions below.

How are battalions put together?

A typical infantry battalion has five companies:
Headquarters and Service (H&S) - Administrative and Support. It is comprised of sections such as administrative, logistical, communications, supply, motor transport sections.

Echo, Fox, Golf – Rifle companies. Mainly consist of riflemen who carry light to medium weapons.

Weapons – Heavy guns, snipers and mortars.

The CO, XO, SgtMaj, and Chaplain belong to H &S, and every company has a Company Commander, Executive Officer, 1stSgt and Company Gunny as well.

Where do they live?

All single Marines and sailors live in one of 3 barracks located near the battalion headquarters building (HP 111). Typical rooms are 3 man rooms with an attached bathroom. Marines are issued all bed linens from the command, although they may purchase and utilize their own. They must provide all of their own hygiene and cleaning materials.

Single Marines are issued a meal card which they use at the chow hall, located within walking distance of the barracks and battalion headquarters. Breakfast, lunch, dinner are provided daily – hours of operation are posted outside.

While in the field, Marines are generally provided one hot meal and two (2) MRE’s (Meals Ready to Eat) per day.

What about health care, dental, vision, etc?

The Battalion Aid Station (BAS) is located on the bottom floor of the battalion headquarters and is staffed by two medical officers and supporting corpsmen. Sick call hours are posted at BAS and are usually available Monday – Friday. While in the field, each platoon is accompanied by a corpsman.

Dental is available on Camp Lejeune and each Marine and sailor is required to get regular checkups.

Optometry services are available by appointment after referral from the battalion medical officer.

What is the typical daily schedule?

A typical day normally starts around 0530 with reveille at the barracks. After PT (Physical Training) has been completed, the companies transition into the daily routine as indicated by the training schedule. This may include classes, field exercises, weapons shoots, or primary military education(PME). Days normally end at 1700 or 5 pm.
Tues through Thurs will often be spent overnight in the Camp Lejeune training areas.

Where do they train?

Training areas are available aboard Camp Lejeune—the base is very large! Training is also conducted at Ft. AP Hill, VA and at 29 Palms, CA (Mojave Viper).

AP Hill will occur in August 2010

Mojave Viper will occur from mid-Nov to mid-Dec

Can my son leave base?

Once finished for the day, Marines are free to leave the base for the evening and are required to report to their platoon the following morning unless otherwise stated, i.e. special liberty, leave, or weekends.

Marines are provided with a list of off-limits establishments located off base and are expected to comply with regulations.

Out of bounds limits are established and provided for weekend liberty, special liberty and leave.

24 hours	85 miles
48 hours	250 miles
72 hours	350 miles
96 hours	450 miles

Can they purchase a car?

Yes, your Marine may purchase a vehicle. However, they must adhere to the base and state regulations regarding insurance, inspections and base stickers.

Mail at Camp Lejeune—What is the address and how do they get it?

The mailing address for 2/8:

Marine Name
2/8 ____ (Echo, Fox, Golf, Wpns or H&S)
PSC Box 20103
Camp Lejeune NC 28542

FED EX, UPS address

Marine Name
2/8 ____ (Echo, Fox, Golf, Wpns, or H&S)
111 C Street
Camp Lejeune NC 28542

Mail is picked up at the Camp Lejeune main post office by a battalion mail clerk. It is then transported to the battalion mail room, located on the bottom floor of HP 111, where the mail clerk sorts it by company. Mail is then picked up by company representatives and passed out in the company areas.

Mail and/or packages cannot be received at the barracks.

During deployments a deployment mailing address will be provided for each company. Motomail is normally available during deployments. It is sent using a program similar to email. When received, it is printed out by an impact printer on a sealed envelope and is then delivered to the recipient as regular mail. This service is free of charge..

How do we use Red Cross and when? What do they do? How long does it take to receive the message?

Red Cross should be utilized when a family or home situation makes it imperative for a Marine or sailor to come home. Red Cross makes the official notification of a death or illness of a family member to the command and can assist a service member with plane tickets or travel home, usually in the form of a grant which must be repaid.

Families are encouraged to contact their local Red Cross. However, you may contact the national Red Cross association after hours by calling 1 877 272-7337. You will need to provide the following:

Marine/sailor name and SSN
Command Name (2/8)
Officer of the Day Number 910 451-5254/5128

Notifications are typically made within 24 hours. During deployment notifications do not have a time limit due to the difficulty of contacting/locating the servicemember at certain times.

A Red Cross message does not mean that a Marine/sailor will automatically get to come home—it is always at the discretion of the battalion commander.

Is religious support available?

Each battalion has a Chaplain available to the Marines/sailors. Chaplains have confidentiality and can provide counseling support.

I would like to visit my son. For us that would mean purchasing a plane ticket. How can I know in advance that my son will be free for a couple of days? Does he get weekends off?

If your son would like to have time off to visit with you, he needs to submit a leave request through his chain of command. The leave request must meet certain criteria to be approved- including but not limited to: the training schedule, amount of time he has accrued, and location. The battalion does not typically train during the weekend, but there are occasions when this does occur.

Deployment send-off, can families be there?

Absolutely! We encourage families to attend deployments and returns. Please remember that due to Operational Security (OPSEC) concerns, the time between our disclosure of the Marines movement will be very close to the actual departure or return. While we understand that it is your main interest to see your Marine/sailors, our priority is safely transporting the battalion to the intended destination.

This may impact families and their ability to attend departures or reunions. We will do our best to inform the families as soon the information is available to release.

Rumors, rumors, rumors!

As with any organization, rumors and misconceptions are everywhere! That is where the Family Readiness Program can help. Official command information is only passed through the Family Readiness Officer to the families. This is especially important during deployments.

Please feel free to contact us at any time with ANY questions, concerns or suggestions.

I look forward to building a great relationship with each and every one of you.

Misty

Family Readiness Officer
2d Bn 8th Marines
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